



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. BRI-00027-PRA

Group Art Unit: 2875)
Examiner: Tsidulko)
Inventor(s): Gilbert et al.)
Serial No. 09/780,528)
Filed: February 9, 2001)
Title: EXTERIOR MIRROR)

RESPONSE TO
RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT

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Hon. Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the office action mailed September 27, 2002 for which a response was due on October 27, 2002. In view of the fact that October 27, 2002 was a Sunday, this response is being filed on the next business day, Monday, October 28, 2002, and it is therefore submitted that the response is timely submitted.

The Examiner asserted that the above-referenced patent application discloses the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-18, drawn to a vehicle mirror with a light, classified in class 362, subclass 494;

Group II: Claims 19-26, drawn to a vehicle mirror with an intercom system, classified in class 340, subclass 438; and

Group III: Claims 27-29, drawn to a control system for adjustable interior components, classified in class 307, subclass 9.1.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the allegedly patentably distinct groups of designs.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. The Applicants contend that while the claims of the present invention may arguably be properly classified as proposed by the Examiner, the actual search required to be conducted by the Examiner with respect to any one particular group will, in all probability, entail searching in multiple classes and multiple subclasses that encompass, or at least overlap, the classes and subclasses identified by the Examiner. Therefore, the Applicants submit that the search required to concurrently examine all of the claims of the instant application will not be unduly burdensome.

The Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-18, with traverse, for prosecution on the merits.

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the claim of the instant application and a favorable response is earnestly solicited. In the interests of expediting the prosecution of the instant application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the attorney of record by telephone in order to resolve any issues concerning patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

WARN, BURGESS & HOFFMANN, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By: 

Philip R. Warn
Reg. No. 32775
Preston H. Smirman
Reg. No. 35365

P.O. Box 70098
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
(248) 364-4300

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